

A VIEW FROM FEW

AN ORGANIZATION FOR OPPORTUNITY AND EQUALITY FOR WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT

SPACE COAST CHAPTER, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FL

http://www.ksc.nasa.gov/groups/few/

FEBRUARY 2005

SPACE COAST CHAPTER, FEW 2004 – 2005 Officers and Committees

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Newsletter Editor	Muzette Fiander
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Nominations	Karin Biega
	Connie Dobrin
	Muzette Fiander
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Seminar	Vickie Hall
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Programs/Publicity
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Nat'l Bylaws &	Karin Biega
Resolutions	
Regional Awards	Barbara Powell

Regional Nominations/ Vickie Hall Elections
Regional Secretary Jean Grenville



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dawn Partlow

This month has gone by so quickly with getting caught up back at work, making plans for upcoming events and keeping up with everything that is going on. Hope you are being successful in your activities and fulfilling your New Year's resolutions.

Our January Business Meeting was held on January 18, at Kelsey's in Pt. St. John, and a great deal was accomplished. The officers and committee chairs reported on their activities. One item of business was to fill the Vice President vacancy. There were three past presidents who volunteered for this position and we appreciate their dedication to the chapter, thank you all. Jean Grenville was chosen to fill the office of Vice President for this term. Aneta Ott and Connie Dobrin were asked to assist with the Program Committee activities.

The 26th ATP Committee activities are progressing very well. The registration package has gone out and registrations are already coming in. Please remember to get your registration in as soon as possible and to respond to the call for volunteers for introducing speakers, helping with registration or assisting the hostess committee. We need your help!

Our February Program and Business Meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 17**, at the Cara Mia restaurant in Cocoa Village. We are excited about trying a new restaurant and meeting place. Nora Ross will be speaking on Massage Therapy. Nora retired from NASA some time ago and has started a new career. She will have some good information for us. Hope to see you there. Have a wonderful Valentine's Day on February 14. Our March activity is, of course, our Annual Training Program on March 2 and 3. Mark your calendars for our special Membership Meeting the month following the seminar on **Tuesday, April 19**, and be thinking of who you would like to invite to attend with you.



SUNSHINE

Vivian Andreasson

Celebrating birthdays in February:

Gina O'Shaughnessy February 3
Delores Abraham February 11
Lucia Dougherty February 19
Becky Fasulo February 23



If you notice anyone missing please email Muzette Fiander at Muzette.B.Fiander@nasa.gov

SPACE COAST ELECTS VICE PRESIDENT

Karin Biega, Nominations Chair

Due to the untimely death of Jane Eitel, three former chapter presidents stepped forward to fill out Jane's term: Aneta Ott, Connie Dobrin, and Jean Grenville. Ladies, the chapter heartily thanks you for continuing to show why Space Coast Chapter is the greatest.

A vote was taken at the January business meeting and Jean Grenville was elected to complete Jane's term. She will also be working to finish out the programs for this year and invites comments/suggestions from all.

Again, congratulations Jean and THANK YOU Aneta and Connie.

ANNUAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Vickie Hall

Well it's almost time for our training program; 'Challenge *Yourself in a Changing World' is* coming up March 2nd and will be repeated on March 3rd. Here's a preview of how your day should go once you get to the Holiday Inn, Cocoa Beach.

You will begin with a visit to the upstairs Registration area, where you will pick up your Registration package, and possibly a visit to our Vendor/Exhibit area, and then it's back downstairs for a leisurely continental breakfast of danish, muffins, coffee and juice. Next we hope to entertain you with a well known author and speaker, Martha Ackman, who wrote the book, *Mercury 13: The Untold Story of Thirteen American Women and the Dream of Space Flight*.

You should have a few minutes before your workshop sessions begin to make a needed pit stop and take a look at a couple more of our exhibit booths. Next it's off to classes; the workshop offerings include the following:

"Where Are They? I'm Their Leader!" – Miriam Hull

"Identity Theft and Personal Crime Prevention" – Metro Crime Prevention

"Linking Perspectives to Performance" – Mary Jones

"Women's Health" - Health First

Hope you're enjoying your day so far because it's almost time for lunch and DOOR PRIZES, DOOR PRIZES, DOOR PRIZES. Don't forget to save room for that scrumptious dessert. And oh by the way, bet some of our exhibitors are looking for you to just say hello and show you their wares.

Bet you think it's going to be hard to stay awake this afternoon after that big meal. I hope not because we certainly hope our choice of speakers will keep you on the edge of your seat and wide awake. So enjoy your afternoon workshop. And oh by the way, our exhibitors will still be standing or sitting at their booths with smiling faces just waiting for you.

Well, I guess you've had a full day, hope you learned something and plan to attend again next year!

If you are interested and available to assist with the day or day(s) of training, please contact Arden Belt, Arden.Belt@nasa.gov or contact her at 867-2201. She is looking for volunteers for Registration, to Hostess and to assist Speakers.

The next Annual Training Program (ATP) Meeting will be held February 9, 2005 from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., in Headquarters, Room 2635. So please feel free to join us. If you have any questions please, contact either me at 867-9100, Vickie.C.Hall@nasa.gov or Barb Powell, 867-7384, Barbara.Y.Powell@nasa.gov or Sandy Eliason, 861-9309, Sandra.K.Eliason@nasa.gov.

National Training Program (NTP) Update

Submitted by Vickie Hall

Make plans now to attend the 36th annual FEW National Training Program, July 18-22, 2005 in Reno, NV. Information is posted on the FEW website, www.few.org. The NTP is designed for all public, private, and Federal employees, including military personnel, in a myriad of positions and at all managerial and supervisory levels and is consistent with OPM training. Online registration begins March 15, 2005. Lodging is available at the Reno Hilton for \$69 for a single or double room.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Aneta Ott

Mark your calendars for the annual KSC All American Picnic!!! It is scheduled for **Saturday**, **April 9th**, **2005**, at KARS Park 1. It is that time again and the theme this year is *Return to Flight* to celebrate what KSC employees have accomplished and to build excitement as Discovery's launch date approaches. As we have in the past, FEW will participate in the picnic by taking one of the children's games and also selling tickets for the Chili cook-off. The children's games time slots are 9-11, 11-1, and

1-3, so I am looking for two volunteers per hour for the children's games - are you available? How about sending me an e-mail at Lashal@aol.com and let me know when you would like to help out. The Chili cook-off ticket sales are from 10-12 and 12-2, we can also do that by the hour if you would like and this gives you a choice of events that you can participate in. Will be waiting to hear from you, this is a great event and we need your help!

Baxley Manor Lessons Learned

When I left the center for Baxley with the gifts everyone had a gift. But somehow a couple of the envelopes got lost in route. Next year when we do the gifts and someone asks for a gift card I think it would be better that it be put in the box. I believe what happened is the envelope was put in another bag so someone got two. Another thing that I wanted to pass on to you was a couple of the ladies went to Wal-mart to get their stuff only to find out that the card was no good. I am not saying who ever purchased this card is one of us (FEW) but I think another lesson learned would be to make sure that the receipt is with the card. Thanks to all who help make a difference for these people, they have thanked me & you a dozen times since then.

Valentine's Day — Where Did It Originate?

Submitted by Vickie Hall

As early as the fourth century B.C., the Romans engaged in an annual young man's rite to passage to the God Lupercus. The names of the teenage women were placed in a box and drawn at random by adolescent men; thus, a man was assigned a woman companion for the duration of the year, after which another lottery was staged. After eight hundred years of this cruel practice, the early church fathers sought to end this practice... They found an answer in Valentine, a bishop who had been martyred some two hundred

According to church tradition, St. Valentine was a priest near Rome in about the year 270 A.D. At that time, the Roman Emperor Claudius-II had issued an edict forbidding marriage. This was

around when the heyday of the Roman empire had almost come to an end. Lack of quality administrators led to frequent civil strife. Learning declined, taxation increased, and trade slumped to a low, precarious level. And the Gauls, Slavs, Huns, Turks and Mongolians from Northern Europe and Asia increased their pressure on the empire's boundaries. The empire had grown too large to be shielded from external aggression and internal chaos with existing forces. Thus more capable men were required to be recruited as soldiers and officers. When Claudius became the emperor, he felt that married men were more emotionally attached to their families, and thus, would not make good So to assure quality soldiers, he soldiers. banned marriage.

Valentine, a bishop, seeing the trauma of young lovers, met them in a secret place, and joined them in the sacrament of matrimony. Claudius learned of this "friend of lovers," and had him arrested. The emperor, impressed with the young priest's dignity and conviction, attempted to convert him to the roman gods, to save him from certain execution. Valentine refused to recognize Roman Gods and even attempted to convert the emperor, knowing the consequences fully. On February 24, 270, Valentine was executed.

"From your Valentine"

While Valentine was in prison awaiting his fate, he came in contact with his jailor, Asterius. The jailor had a blind daughter. Asterius requested him to heal his daughter. Through his faith he miraculously restored the sight of Asterius' daughter. Just before his execution, he asked for a pen and paper from his jailor, and signed a farewell message to her "From Your Valentine," a phrase that lived ever after.

Valentine thus became a Patron Saint, and spiritual overseer of an annual festival. The festival involved young Romans offering women they admired and wished to court, handwritten greetings of affection on February 14. The greeting cards acquired St. Valentine's name. The Valentine's Day card spread with Christianity, and is now celebrated all over the world. One of the earliest cards was sent in 1415

by Charles, duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was a prisoner in the Tower of London. The card is now preserved in the British Museum

FLORIDA HISTORY AND CULTURE



Name Origins of Florida Places

Florida's cities and counties are named for influential residents, Indian words used to describe the area, and former governors. In the next few issues, I'll include a few of these just to help educate you a little more on Florida's history.

Belle Glade, Palm Beach County -- Belle Glade was originally known as the Hillsborough Canal Settlement. When the inhabitants requested their own post office, they were required to give the city a new name. A tourist traveling to the area said the town was the "belle of the glades." That sounded good to the locals. So with a minor change, it became the town's new name.

Bithlo, Orange County -- Bithlo derives from the Muskogee word "pilo" (canoe). The voiceless "I" was often written as "thl-."

Blountstown, Calhoun County -- This city was named for John Blount, the distinguished Seminole Indian chief who occupied the reservation just east of the town.

Boca Ciega, Pinellas County -- Named for Boca Ciega Bay, Boca Ciega literally means Blind Mouth in Spanish. This may have been a reference to what it looked like at the entrance of the river.

Boca Raton, Palm Beach County -- The Spanish "Boca de Ratones" means rat's mouth, a term used by seamen to describe a hidden rock which a ship's cable might rub against.

Below: A city bus stops in front of the Mizner Development Corporation in downtown Boca Raton, 1925.-



Bonifay, Holmes County -- Bonifay is the name of a prominent family in the area.

Brandon, Hillsborough County -- This town is named for the family of John Brandon, a man who moved his family and all their possessions to Florida.

Brooksville, Hernando County -- Brooksville comes from Preston Brooks, a former congressman of South Carolina. My source of information - http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/facts/

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Submitted by Jean Grenville

Thursday, February 17, 2005: The February Program and Business meeting will be held at Cara Mia restaurant in Cocoa Village gathering between 4:45 and 5:00 p.m. Nora Ross will speak on "Massage Therapy."

Wednesday, March 2 and Thursday, March 3, 2005: 26th Annual Training Seminar, Holiday Inn, Cocoa Beach, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day.

Note: **Saturday, March 19, 2005**: 38th Annual Pelican Home Tour sponsored by the Cocoa Beach Women's Club. Cost is \$10.00.

Tuesday, April 19, 2005: Space Coast Chapter Annual Membership Meeting. Kimmarie Barrett to present an Overview of Office 2003; tentative location: Cocoa Beach Holiday Inn. Also, the Nominations Committee will present the 2005 - 2006 Slate of Officers.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Betty Valentine

Don't forget to get those applications in !!!

Each year, the Space Coast Chapter of Federally Employed Women sponsors scholarships for dependents of KSC employees who are either a graduating senior in high school or already enrolled in college as an undergraduate student.

Last year, the Chapter sponsored eight students to help defray the cost of college necessities. Each scholarship ranged from \$500 to \$1,000.

The call is out for this year, and the Chapter is accepting applications until March 25, 2005. The winners will be notified no later than April 30, 2005. You can obtain an application by calling Betty Valentine/UB-I at 861-2016.

For FEW members that are interested in applying for the membership scholarships you must have been a member for the past two years, served as an officer, committee chair, or a member who has actively participated in chapter meetings and/or programs and supports the goals of FEW. Please forward the following information to Betty Valentine/UB-I-3. I will need the information by April 15, 2005.

NAME Company/Organization Mail Code Phone Number Area of Studies

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL NATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP

Submitted by Barb Powell

HAPPY NEW YEAR. Did you make a New Year's Resolution? No not the traditional ones like lose weight, exercise more, or the generic favorite, be a better spouse/parent brother/sister/daughter/son or whatever. No I'm talking resolutions that you could make regarding your membership in FEW. For instance, how about resolving to recruit one (1) new member to the chapter? Just think what an impact that would make on our organization. Still need another one? You could resolve to volunteer to serve or even chair a committee. Here's an easier one. Commit to attend at least one meeting or social event this coming year.

You might even enjoy yourself! Being a member of an organization is more than just paying dues. If you believe in the mission of FEW enough to hand over your hard earned money surely you can find the time to attend one meeting. If we sincerely want to increase our membership with the intent of furthering the goals of FEW, we must start by showing our own commitment to non-members. I challenge each and every member to move into action this coming year and for the benefit of the Space Coast Chapter of FEW.

I have to admit that I plagiarized the first paragraph of this message from Patricia Hart, the President of the Oak Ridge Chapter of FEW. But her words bear repeating to all the members. So "thanks" Pat.

However, what this article is about is applications for the Southeast Regional National Training Program (NTP) Scholarship. This year we have extended the period for receiving applications to March 1, 2005. For those of you who do not know what this is, the Region will recognize, through an annual NTP scholarship, an individual who best exemplified the group to which the organization's training is directed. Qualified applicants including active or retired employees, government federal contract employees, and individuals who share FEW's vision, must have been a member (regular or associate) for at least one year. This scholarship will cover actual expenses incurred during attendance at the NTP up to \$1,500.00 Covered expenses include tuition out of pocket for full registration, hotel room, transportation and meals up to the government daily per diem. If the scholarship recipient has never attended an NTP, a mentor will be named to assist the scholarship recipient in the NTP process, i.e. choosing workshops, locating rooms, etc. Last year we had one applicant, and although the scholarship didn't go to waste for lack of someone to use it, it is hoped that this year more than one member will take the time to apply. If you have never been to an NTP, and have always wanted to go, now is your opportunity. Each Chapter has been sent an email with the appropriate application forms. The application (and supplemental materials) must be mailed to the Southeast Region Awards Committee members postmarked no later than March 1, 2005. SEE YOU IN RENO, in July. If you have any questions, email me at Barbara.Y.Powell@nasa.gov

FEW MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

Ellie Miller

A big thank you to those who have already renewed your membership.

To those who have not completed your renewal, I would ask that you do this as soon as possible. I would also ask that you review the membership roster to determine if some change is in order. Please let me know about your changes as soon as you can. This is imperative so that our membership roster will be accurate.

Please forward your renewal fee to my attention at Mail Stop SGS-6200 if you are on center. If you are mailing your renewal from off center, please use:

FEW P.O. Box 21201 Kennedy Space Center, FL 32815

Clara Anderson will also take credit card payments and if you wish to discuss this you can reach her via e-mail at <u>Clara.Anderson-1@ksc.nasa.gov</u> or at home at <u>CMAnderson8@cfl.rr.com</u> or by phone at 867-2087.

The yearly renewal cost is only \$30.00.

If you have any questions about your membership, please feel free to call or e-mail me. Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Ellie Miller 853-6444 Membership



GOVERNMENT NEWS &
LEGISLATION
Marie Argana

The information in this column is taken from the FEW Washington Update and the FEDweek Weekly issue.

Federal Sector Personnel Cuts

Experts agree that the Bush Administration will push for more job competitions between federal employees and the private sector in 2005. One of the most controversial elements of competitive sourcing is that agencies can decide competitions for work between federal work forces and contractors based upon what they perceive to be the best value. This means that, in deciding competitions, agencies can base decisions on factors other than cost, such as technology.

Unions say moving away from a lowest-cost standard will put federal employees at a disadvantage and result in higher costs to the government. Contractors say the government will not get the best deal if it focuses on cost only, as better technology or service comes with higher cost.

In fiscal year 2003, federal employees won nearly 89% of jobs competed under A-76. But some people predict contractors will win more competitions in 2005 because, they believe, the new rules tilt in favor of the private sector, especially the best-value criterion.

Retirement/Pension

Rep. Howard McKeon (R-CA) introduced HR 147 that repeals both the GPO and WEP Social Security provisions. For more information on this bill and ways you can help, visit the FEW Grassroots Advocacy Center at www.capwiz.com/few.

And speaking of Social Security, if President Bush follows through with his plan to privatize Social Security, women will be more affected than men. Consider the following, according to Diana Zuckerman, President of the National Research Center for Women and Families, a Washington research center:

Most Social Security checks are sent to women because they live longer than men.

- ➤ Women depend more on Social Security than men do because they are less likely to have their own private pensions when they retire. When women do have private pensions, their pension checks are, on average, half as large as men's.
- ➤ Our Social Security system is currently relatively generous to low earners, and especially women. A privatized system would likely be more generous to high earners, most of whom are men.

Unfortunately, any privatized plan would still have transition costs that would add up to trillions of dollars. The only way to pay for these costs is by cutting benefits. This could be a triple whammy for women:

- 1. Investing in the private sector tends primarily to benefit the highest earners, who tend to be men;
- Transition costs would necessitate budget cuts that would put holes in the Social Security safety net which is desperately needed by individuals without pension plans, most of whom are women; and
- Personal accounts do not provide guaranteed benefits for as long as you live, which is important to those who live the longest, most of whom are women.

Pay/Benefits

2005 could go down as the last year most federal employees earn the same pay raise. New systems set to begin operating this year at the Defense and Homeland Security departments will allow supervisors to base annual pay raises on individual performance instead of longevity, which is the current practice.

The nearly one million employees at those two agencies no longer will look to Congress and the President to learn how much their pay checks will grow each year. Pay raises will be decided by the agencies themselves, and each employee's raise will be based largely on how well she/he completes the tasks set out for her/him at the start of the year.

Details of the Homeland Security and Defense systems still are being worked out, but it is clear that employees who out-perform others will get a larger share of the pot of money set aside each year for pay raises, while those who perform particularly poorly could get no raise at all.

Personnel officials in and out of the government are keeping a close watch on how the new payfor-performance rules play out among senior executives and employees at Homeland Security and Defense. Lawmakers likely will weigh the success of those systems in deciding whether to expand them to other agencies.

Travel Comp Time Rules Published Interim rules effective January 28 carry out legislation enacted last year authorizing federal employees to get compensatory time off for time they spend traveling for official purposes during off-duty hours. Qualifying time includes not only the time spent in transit but also "usual waiting time" such as time used when arriving early for a flight. The time will accrue in increments of 6 or 15 minutes and will have to be used within 26 pay periods of being earned. There are some limited situations in which employees traveling on their own time are paid; in those cases, the individual would not receive both pay and comp time. The rules also spell out what is considered travel time and reaffirm that comp time cannot be converted to cash.

Guidance Coming on Reservist Policy The Defense Department's civilian personnel management service has said that it is working to issue policies to carry out a change in law affecting health benefits for federal employees who are activated for military duty that was enacted late in 2004. Under Public Law 108-375, an employee who is called to active duty on or after September 14, 2001 and serves on active duty for more than 30 consecutive days may elect to continue Federal Employees Health Benefits coverage for up to 24 months after the employee is placed on leave without pay or separated from service to perform active duty, up from an 18-month limit. The law also says that agencies may pay the full FEHB premium for up 24 months, up from 18 months. However, the changes are not yet effective pending the issuance of implementing policies, DoD says.

OPM Publishes Leave, Other Regulations

The Office of Personnel Management has published a set of proposed rules, most of them relatively minor changes or restatements of current policy, in part to standardize practices that vary somewhat among agencies. Among the more notable changes, the rules would: set each November 15 as the deadline for scheduling "use or lose" annual leave, rather than having the date float each year depending on pay cycles; require that employees use compensatory time within 26 weeks; state that employees on military duty cannot use federal sick leave; and require that agencies charge employees leave in increments of either 6 or 15 minutes.

<u>Partnership for Public Service Awards</u> (SAMMIES):

The Partnership for Public Service is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization committed to revitalizing public service. In 2002, the Partnership and the Atlantic Media Company instituted the Service to America Awards (SAMMIES) to recognize the accomplishments of America's public servants. Winners are presented with medals and cash awards ranging from \$3,000 to \$10,000.

Nominations must be submitted online by March 1, 2005. Perhaps you know of a FEW member who deserves this prestigious award? If so, check out

http://www.servicetoamericamedals.org

Your Health

Submitted by Vickie Hall

Go Red For Women

February is National Heart Month and a special presentation, Go Red For Women, will be held at the Kennedy Space Center Training Auditorium on February 11, 2005, from 9 - 10:30 a.m. Heart disease is the number one killer of women in America. This event is focused on educating women and men about the risk for cardiovascular disease. Please join other men and women at the Space Center and wear red on February 11th.

COCOA VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE

Brigadoon

Feb 6 - Feb 22

Anything Goes

Apr 23 - May 9

SURFSIDE PLAYERS

West Side Story

Mar 4 - Mar 20

Dial "M" for Murder

Apr 29 – May 15

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

- 8 Mardi Gras
- 9 Ash Wednesday
- 11 Go Red For Women Program at KSC
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 Chapter Program & Business Meeting at Cara Mia in Cocoa Village
- 21 Presidents' Day

This monthly publication is a means of sharing information and ideas. Please send news articles or items of interest for this Newsletter to Muzette Fiander, TA-E1, or e-mail at Muzette.B.Fiander@nasa.gov

Please feel free to share this Newsletter with your friends. And for anyone interested, a Membership Application is attached as the last page.

Some people believe that holding on and hanging in there are signs of great strength.

"However, there are times when it takes much more strength to know when to let go ---- and then do it." - Ann Landers

Thoughts to Ponder

Submitted by Vickie Hall

Learning is finding out what you already know. Doing is demonstrating that you know it. Teaching is reminding others that they know it just as well as you. You are all learners, doers, teachers.

- Richard Bach

We look into mirrors but we only see the effects of our times on us - not our affects on others.

- Pearl Bailey

What the world really needs is more love and less paperwork.

- Pearl Bailey

SPACE COAST CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Muzette Fiander

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FEDERALLY EMPLOYED WOMEN P. O. BOX 75551 BALTIMORE, MD 21275

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ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION FEW is comprised of chapters throughout the world. Membership is open to all Federal and DC Government employees (regular members) and to any other person supporting the goals and objectives of FEW (associate members). More information about the organization is posted on the FEW web site: http://www.few.org . National membership dues are \$25.00 for chapter members, and \$35.00 for members-at-large (no chapter																													
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